

said plural images is obtained, an average value and standard deviation of brightness of said pixels are calculated, and when there is at least one pixel having brightness higher than said average value by a predetermined multiple of said standard deviation or more, an image having said at least one pixel is judged to be an image of a defective glass bottle and then removed.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method of producing a reference image according to claim 4, wherein a frequency distribution of brightness of pixels located at the same pixel position in said plural images is obtained, an average value and standard deviation of brightness of said pixels are calculated, and when there is at least one pixel having brightness lower than or equal to a value calculated by subtracting a predetermined multiple of said standard deviation from said average value, an image having said at least one pixel is judged to be an image of a defective glass bottle and then removed.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A method of inspecting a glass bottle, wherein a defect at a specific part of a glass bottle is detected by comparing the reference image obtained by the method according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 6~~claim 1, with an image which is formed by imaging with a CCD camera the glass bottle to be inspected ~~by a CCD camera~~.

Claim 8 (original): An apparatus for producing a reference image, comprising:
a CCD camera for forming plural images by imaging a plurality of glass bottles as samples which may contain defective glass bottles; and
an image processor for producing a reference image from the obtained plural images, a range of brightness when light is applied to a non-defective glass bottle being specified in said reference image.

Claim 9 (currently amended): An apparatus for producing a reference image according to claim 8, wherein said range of brightness specified in said reference image is determined by ~~detecting~~grasping brightness in each pixel in the images of plural non-defective glass bottles, and determining the maximum brightness and the minimum brightness in each pixel, ~~and wherein~~ said

